

Using the Microphone

The teacher
always sets the
protocol for
microphone
use.

Using the Microphone—Tips and Suggestions

Use your
facilitator to
help with
microphone
use.

1. The teacher should direct microphone use, maintaining control at all times. The EDNET teacher sets the protocols for microphone usage.
2. Be sure to have students turn OFF the microphone when not in use. The audio system can pick up ambient noise in the classrooms. Usually one microphone should be on at any one time, but you can sometimes have several students on simultaneously. Check with your local and remote facilitators for assistance in setting up multiple microphones.
3. There may be a delay of audio of 1.5 seconds from one site to another, depending on the carrier system. If the delay is more than that, let the facilitator know that it is unacceptable and would like it to be corrected by the EDNET technicians.
4. The teacher usually wears a lavalier microphone, pinned to a lapel, tie, or blouse. Watch for jewelry, pins, or tie tacks next to the lavalier that could bump against it.



5. Interaction with students require clear control of the audio system instantly. Practice with your audio system locally and the remote sites so you will know what they can and cannot do.
6. Site facilitators at remote sites need to assist with proper microphone use. Don't allow unlimited student access to the microphone system.
7. If you need special audio arrangements (cassette tapes, CD-ROMs for the computer, CDs, or music), be sure to let your facilitator know what you need and practice using them outside of class several days before you will use it "on the air."

8. Be aware of audio feedback and practice with the system so you will know what to do to get rid of it if it should happen. The EDNET teacher will have to direct students and facilitators in what to do with feedback problems. Feedback is usually caused by too many microphones being on, incorrect audio levels for the microphones or television monitor, or incorrect placement of the microphones "facing the speakers" of the television monitor. Simply move the microphones away from the television or turn the monitors slightly away from the teacher or affected student. Preclass testing will avoid audio feedback problems.

